



## **Orson Aguilar, Executive Director The Greenlining Institute**

**Orson Aguilar** is only the second Executive Director in the 15-year history of the **Greenlining Institute**. He is an expert in banking and housing policy, economic development, youth leadership training, and other major policy issues affecting communities of color.

Orson's first-hand, personal experience of poverty predates his professional pursuit of its alleviation. He grew up in the largest apartment complex in Boyle Heights (East Los Angeles) where he attended public schools and experienced not only material poverty, but also its corollary realities of environmental injustice and gang violence.

Today, in his role at the helm of the Greenlining Institute, Orson focuses on private and public policies that promote investments and equity in low-income and minority communities like East Los Angeles. He has played key organizing and advocacy roles in corporate mergers and acquisitions that have resulted in billions of dollars in investments for the poor.

Orson meets regularly with CEOs of major financial institutions and other Fortune 50 companies, regulators including the Chairs of the Federal Reserve, FDIC, OTS, Comptroller of the Currency, and House Financial Services Committee, and others to press an anti-poverty agenda.

Orson has also been instrumental in developing Greenlining's Fair Growth and Sustainable Development Program that seeks to ensure that our poorest citizens also benefit from the nation's desire to "go green".

Orson was recently named upcoming Latino leader by the nation's largest Hispanic newspaper, La Opinion. He is a past Commissioner for the City of Oakland's Budget Advisory Committee, chairs the Board of Directors of the Mission Economic Development Agency (MEDA), and is a member of the University of California's Santa Cruz's Alumni Association Board.

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